

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated November 15, 2004. Claims 1-16, 18-19, and 21 remain pending in this application. Claims 1, 12, 16, and 19 are the independent claims.

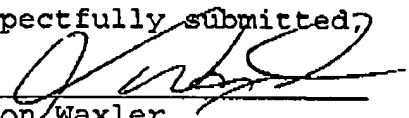
Applicant notes with appreciation the indication that Claims 1-11 are allowed.

Applicant also notes with appreciation the indication that Claims 12-15 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph. Applicant so amended Claims 12-15, believes the § 112 rejection to be moot in light of the amendments to Claim 12, and requests withdrawal of the § 112 rejection. Additionally, Applicant respectfully believes Claims 12-15 to be in condition for allowance.

Applicant also notes with appreciation the indication that Claims 17, 18, 20, and 21 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has so amended Claims 16 and 19, respectively to include the contents of Claims 17 and 20, respectively. Applicant believes Claims 16, 18, 19, and 21 to be in condition for allowance. Further Applicant respectfully believes the amendments to Claims 16 and 19 render the § 102(e) rejection moot and requests its withdrawal.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application. Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached by telephone at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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February 15, 2005